

## Message Text

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16

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 SAM-01 CIAE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 IO-14 SCI-06 HEW-08 SCA-01

OMB-01 SCS-03 DRC-01 /176 W  
----- 114749

R 010528Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8123

INFO SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 6084

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL LE

SUBJECT: MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR LEBANESE AND PALESTINIANS

REF: SECDEF 4681, BEIRUT 5786 AND 5929

1. EMBASSY NOT QUITE CLEAR WHETHER OASD/PA IS IRRITATED BECAUSE PRESS RELEASE WAS DEFECTIVE OR BECAUSE NOT COORDINATED, OR BOTH. BELIEVE CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT EXPLAIN EMBASSY'S ACTION IN EITHER CASE.

2. EMBASSY FIRST HEARD ON MAY 22 THAT TWO AIR FORCE C-141'S ARRIVING BEIRUT MAY 26 WITH SHIPMENT MEDICAL SUPPLIES. IT WAS NOT UNTIL EVENING MAY 24 THAT EMBASSY AND CONSIGNEE, THE LEBANESE RED CROSS, HAD FULL DETAILS OF PROJECT. LATTER WAS NOT EVEN AWARE OF PROJECT UNTIL MAY 23. WE WERE FINALLY ABLE INFORM LEBANESE GOVT ON MAY 25.

3. OUR MAIN CONCERN, OUTSIDE OF ASSURING THAT LEB  
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RED CROSS WAS PREPARED ACCEPT SHIPMENT, WAS TO EXPLAIN

NON-SCHEDULED ARRIVAL OF TWO LARGE AF AIRCRAFT AT BEIRUT AIRPORT ALMOST SIMULTANEOUSLY. WE FEARED THAT UNDER PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, WITH RELEASE THERE WOULD BE PERNICIOUS SPECULATION IN LOCAL PRESS AS TO PURPOSE AND CARGO OF PLANES. IT WAS ACCORDINGLY IMPERATIVE THAT SOME KIND OF A PRESS RELEASE BE ISSUED. WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED SUCH RELEASE BE ISSUED BY LEB RED CROSS BUT LATTER NOT IN POSITION TO DO SO. BECAUSE WE DID NOT HAVE SUFFICIENT INFORMATION, IT WAS NOT POSSIBLE PREPARE RELEASE UNTIL MORNING MAY 25. RELEASE HAD TO BE ISSUED THEN IF IT WAS TO BE DISTRIBUTED ON TIME FOR PUBLICATION FOLLOWING DAY. PRESS RELEASE WAS DRAFTED TO (A) EXPLAIN PURPOSE OF AIRCRAFT, (B) GIVE AIR FORCE CREDIT FOR TRANSPORTING MEDICAL SUPPLIES, AND (C) TO GIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTION CREDIT FOR DONATING SUPPLIES. RELEASE WAS "COORDINATED" WITH DATT. PRESS CARRIED NEWS FACTUALLY NEXT DAY WITH PICTURES, AND ARRIVAL AIRCRAFT COVERED BY TELEVISION. GIVEN TIME WE HAD TO ARRANGEFOR PLANES' ARRIVAL, IT SEEMS TO US THAT PROJECT WENT OFF MUCH BETTER THAN MIGHT HAVE BEEN EXPECTED. GODLEY

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MEDICAL CARE, SUPPLIES, REFUGEE CAMPS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 JUN 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974BEIRUT06084  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Film Number:** D740139-0447  
**From:** BEIRUT  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Line Count:** 82  
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**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** cunninfx  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 AUG 2002  
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**Review Transfer Date:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** MEDICAL SUPPLIES FOR LEBANESE AND PALESTINIANS  
**TAGS:** SWEL, LE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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